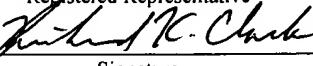


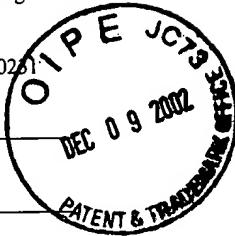
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Registered Representative


Signature



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Our File No. 9281/3943
N US 00069

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

YASUHIRO NISHIYAMA ET AL.

Serial No. 09/834,085

Filing Date: April 12, 2001

For THIN FILM MAGNETIC HEAD
COMPRISING SiON FILM (*As Amended*)

RECEIVED

DEC 12 2002

Examiner W. Klimowicz
Technology Center 2600
Group Art Unit No. 2652

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION/ELECTION REQUIREMENT AND AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated October 30, 2002, Applicants have timely filed this Response to Restriction/Election Requirement by Certificate of Mailing with a one-month time extension.

Applicants elect Group II (Claims 1-14) and Specie I (Thin Film Magnetic Head having an SiON gap layer corresponding to Claims 1-12) for the present application.

In addition, please amend the title to read --Thin Film Magnetic Head Comprising SiON Film--.

Respectfully submitted,


Richard K. Clark
Registration No. 40,560
Attorney for Applicants

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